
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 511 Session of
2021

INTRODUCED BY J. WARD, FONTANA, ARGALL, COLLETT, VOGEL, MARTIN,
PHILLIPS-HILL, PITTMAN, YUDICHAK, HUTCHINSON, MENSCH, BAKER
AND BROWNE, APRIL 13, 2021

REFERRED TO CONSUMER PROTECTION AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE,
APRIL 13, 2021

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of September 27, 1961 (P.L.1700, No.699),
2 entitled "An act relating to the regulation of the practice
3 of pharmacy, including the sales, use and distribution of
4 drugs and devices at retail; and amending, revising,
5 consolidating and repealing certain laws relating thereto,"
6 further providing for authority to administer injectable
7 medications, biologicals and immunizations.

8 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
9 hereby enacts as follows:

10 Section 1. Section 9.2 of the act of September 27, 1961
11 (P.L.1700, No.699), known as the Pharmacy Act, is amended to
12 read:

13 Section 9.2. Authority to Administer Injectable Medications,
14 Biologicals and Immunizations.--[(a) The board shall by
15 regulation establish education and training standards and
16 practice guidelines pursuant to which pharmacists shall be
17 authorized to administer injectable medications, biologicals and
18 immunizations to persons who are more than eighteen years of age
19 and influenza immunizations by injectable or needle-free

1 delivery methods to persons nine years of age and older. Such
2 standards and guidelines shall include, but not be limited to,
3 the following:

4 (1) Satisfactory completion of an academic and practical
5 curriculum approved by the board that includes the current
6 guidelines and recommendations of the Centers for Disease
7 Control and Prevention in the Public Health Service of the
8 United States Department of Health and Human Services, the
9 American Council on Pharmaceutical Education or a similar health
10 authority or professional body and includes, but is not limited
11 to, disease epidemiology, vaccine characteristics, injection
12 technique, emergency response to adverse events and related
13 topics.

14 (2) Maintenance of a current cardiopulmonary resuscitation
15 (CPR) certificate acceptable to the board.

16 (3) That the administration of injectable medications,
17 biologicals and immunizations be in accordance with a definitive
18 set of treatment guidelines established by a physician and the
19 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Advisory Committee
20 on Immunization Practices guidelines or another competent
21 authority approved by the board.

22 (4) That a minimum of two hours of the thirty-hour
23 requirement for continuing education for license renewal be
24 dedicated to this area of practice.

25 (5) For individuals under eighteen years of age, that
26 parental consent be obtained prior to administration.
27 Administration of influenza immunizations by injectable or
28 needle-free delivery methods shall be in accordance with the
29 immunization schedule established by the Centers for Disease
30 Control and Prevention.

1 (6) Maintenance of a level of professional liability
2 insurance coverage in the minimum amount of one million dollars
3 (\$1,000,000) per occurrence or claims made. Failure to maintain
4 insurance coverage as required shall subject the licensees to
5 disciplinary proceedings. The board shall accept as satisfactory
6 evidence of insurance coverage any of the following:

7 (i) personally purchased liability insurance;

8 (ii) professional liability insurance coverage provided by
9 the individual licensee's employer; or

10 (iii) similar insurance coverage acceptable to the board.

11 (7) Notification of the individual's primary care provider,
12 if known, within forty-eight hours of administration.]

13 (a.1) The board shall by regulation establish education and
14 training standards and practice guidelines pursuant to which
15 pharmacists shall be authorized to administer:

16 (1) injectable medications, biologicals and immunizations to
17 persons who are more than eighteen years of age; and

18 (2) the following immunizations by injectable or needle-free
19 delivery methods to persons who are three years of age and
20 older:

21 (i) A vaccine listed in the United States Centers for
22 Disease Control and Prevention's Recommended Immunization
23 Schedule recommended by the Federal Advisory Committee on
24 Immunization Practices; or

25 (ii) A vaccine recommended in the United States Centers for
26 Disease Control and Prevention's Health Information for
27 International Travel; or

28 (iii) A vaccine listed on the Food and Drug Administration's
29 Vaccines Licensed for Use in the United States; or

30 (iv) A vaccine authorized through Emergency Use

1 Authorization by the Food and Drug Administration.

2 (a.2) The standards and guidelines to be established by the
3 board shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

4 (1) Satisfactory completion of an academic and practical
5 curriculum approved by the board that includes the current
6 guidelines and recommendations of the Centers for Disease
7 Control and Prevention in the Public Health Service of the
8 United States Department of Health and Human Services, the
9 Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education or a similar health
10 authority or professional body and includes, but is not limited
11 to, disease epidemiology, vaccine characteristics, injection
12 technique, emergency response to adverse events and related
13 topics.

14 (2) Registration with the board or certification as a
15 certified pharmacy technician from either the Pharmacy
16 Technician Certification Board or National Healthcareer
17 Association and satisfactory completion of a practical training
18 program that is approved by the Accreditation Council for
19 Pharmacy Education or a similar health authority and a minimum
20 of two hours of approved immunization-related continuing
21 pharmacy education. The practical training program must include,
22 but is not limited to, hands-on injection technique and the
23 recognition and treatment of emergency reactions to vaccines.

24 (3) Acceptable proof of education and training standards as
25 evidenced by the immunization credentials or a license of an
26 individual who, at the time of filing an application is licensed
27 as a pharmacist and has immunization credentials or a license,
28 if applicable, in another state or territory of the United
29 States.

30 (4) Maintenance of a current cardiopulmonary resuscitation

1 (CPR) certificate acceptable to the board.

2 (5) That the administration of injectable medications,
3 biologicals and immunizations be in accordance with a definitive
4 set of treatment guidelines established by a physician and the
5 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Advisory Committee
6 on Immunization Practices guidelines or another competent
7 authority approved by the board.

8 (6) That a minimum of two hours of the thirty-hour
9 requirement for continuing education for license renewal be
10 dedicated to this area of practice.

11 (7) For individuals under eighteen years of age, that
12 parental consent be obtained prior to administration.
13 Administration of influenza immunizations by injectable or
14 needle-free delivery methods shall be in accordance with the
15 immunization schedule established by the Centers for Disease
16 Control and Prevention, the Advisory Committee on Immunization
17 Practices or another competent authority.

18 (8) Maintenance of a level of professional liability
19 insurance coverage in the minimum amount of one million dollars
20 (\$1,000,000) per occurrence or claims made. Failure to maintain
21 insurance coverage as required shall subject the licensees to
22 disciplinary proceedings. The board shall accept as satisfactory
23 evidence of insurance coverage any of the following:

- 24 (i) personally purchased liability insurance;
25 (ii) professional liability insurance coverage provided by
26 the individual licensee's employer; or
27 (iii) similar insurance coverage acceptable to the board.

28 (9) Notification of the individual's primary care provider,
29 if known, within forty-eight hours of administration.

30 (b) A pharmacist's authority to administer injectable

1 medications, biologicals and immunizations [~~shall not~~] may be
2 delegated to [~~any other person~~] a pharmacy technician or
3 pharmacy intern trained in accordance with this section. A
4 pharmacy intern who has completed a course of education and
5 training which meets the requirements of subsection [(a)(1) and
6 (2)] (a.2)(1) and (4) and a pharmacy technician who meets the
7 requirements of subsection (a.2)(2) and (4) may administer
8 injectable medications, biologicals and immunizations to persons
9 who are more than eighteen years of age and [~~influenza~~] the
10 immunizations listed in subsection (a.1)(2) by injectable or
11 needle-free delivery methods to persons [nine] who are three
12 years of age and older only under the direct, immediate and
13 personal supervision of a pharmacist holding the authority to
14 administer injectable medications, biologicals and
15 immunizations.

16 (c) A supervising pharmacist shall report the administration
17 of vaccines under this section to the immunization registry
18 maintained by the Department of Health within seventy-two hours
19 of vaccine administration and to the patient's primary care
20 physician in accordance with subsection (a.2)(9).

21 (d) A pharmacist, pharmacy intern and pharmacy technician
22 who administers an immunization to a person under eighteen years
23 of age in accordance with this section shall inform the parent
24 or adult caregiver on the importance of a well-child visit with
25 a pediatrician or other licensed primary care provider and refer
26 the patient as appropriate.

27 (e) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a
28 supervising pharmacist from delegating the reporting of vaccine
29 administration in subsection (c) to a pharmacy technician or
30 pharmacy intern.

1 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.